

Message Text

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TO ALL DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR POSTS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT IMMEDIATE

XMT AMEMBASSY KAMPALA

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EXDIS , TOSEC 322, ZFF ISLAMABAD ONLY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, XF

SUBJECT: MIDDLE EAST SITUATION NO. 104

ISLAMABAD FOR SECRETARY'S PARTY

INFORM CONSULS

VIENNA PASS USDEL MBFR

KUWAIT POUCH MUSCAT AND DOHA

BEIRUT PASS BAGHDAD

COAST GUARD FOR POLAD

1. MILITARY SITUATION: A SERIOUS BREACH OF THE CEASEFIRE DURING MORNING NOVEMBER 9 WAS REPORTED BY BOTH ISRAELIS AND EGYPTIANS. IDF SPOKESMAN ANNOUNCED THAT AN IAF AIRCRAFT ON PATROL MISSION OVER FRONT LINES IN SUEZ CANAL SECTOR SHOT DOWN BY EGYPTIAN GROUND-TO-AIR MISSILE NEAR AREA HELD BY EGYPTIAN SECOND ARMY ON NORTHERN SECTOR OF SUEZ CANAL BETWEEN KANTARA AND ISMAILIA. AIRCRAFT CREW WAS SEEN PARACHUTING INTO EGYPTIAN CONTROLLED AREA AND NAMES OF CREW GIVEN TO ICRC. EGYPTIAN SPOKESMAN STATED TWO ISRAELI PHANTOM JETS WERE SHOT DOWN BY EGYPTIAN AIR DEFENSES WHEN THEY TRIED TO ATTACK EGYPTIAN POSITIONS WEST OF SUEZ CANAL.

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ACCORDING TO EGYPTIAN REPORT, TWO PILOTS WERE CAPTURED WITH ONE IN SERIOUS CONDITION. NO LOSSES REPORTED ON EGYPTIAN SIDE. ALSO A SENIOR IDF OFFICER STATED THAT ELEMENTS OF EGYPTIAN THIRD ARMY TRIED TO ADVANCE IN AL-JIDI AREA DURING

NIGHT NOVEMBER 8 BUT SUBSEQUENTLY WITHDREW. ON SYRIAN FRONT ISRAELI SPOKESMAN SAID SYRIAN TROOPS REPEATEDLY OPENED FIRE AT ISRAELI PATROLS WITH SMALL ARMS AND SPORADIC ARTILLERY FIRE DURING A THREE-HOUR SPAN DURING THE MORNING. ISRAELIS ANSWERED WITH SMALL ARMS FIRE AND NO CASUALTIES REPORTED. THERE ARE ALSO REPORTS OF ISRAELI ARTILLERY FIRE AGAINST UNSPECIFIED TARGETS IN LEBANESE TERRITORY ON NOVEMBER 9. LEBANESE HAVE COMPLAINED THAT SEVERAL VILLAGES WERE HIT BUT THERE ARE NO REPORTED CASUALTIES.

2. ISRAELI/EGYPTIAN AGREEMENT. TEXT OF SECRETARY KISSINGER'S LETTER TO UNSYG WALDHEIM LISTING SIX-POINT ISRAELI/EGYPTIAN AGREEMENT RELEASED MORNING NOVEMBER 9 AND STATED REPRESENTATIVES OF ISRAEL AND EGYPT WOULD MEET ON CAIRO-SUEZ ROAD ON NOVEMBER 10 OR AT OTHER MUTUALLY CONVENIENT TIME TO SIGN AGREEMENT. TEXT OF AGREEMENT AS GIVEN IN SECRETARY'S LETTER TO WALDHEIM INCLUDE FOLLOWING POINTS: A) EGYPT AND ISRAEL AGREE TO OBSERVE SCRUPULOUSLY THE CEASEFIRE CALLED FOR BY THE UNSC, B) BOTH SIDES AGREE DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN THEM WILL BEGIN IMMEDIATELY TO SETTLE QUESTION OF RETURN TO OCTOBER 22 POSITIONS IN FRAMEWORK OF AGREEMENT OF DISENGAGEMENT AND SEPARATION OF FORCES UNDER AUSPICES OF THE U.N., C) TOWN OF SUEZ WILL RECEIVE DAILY SUPPLIES, FOOD, WATER AND MEDICINE. ALL WOUNDED CIVILIANS IN THE TOWN OF SUEZ WILL BE EVACUATED, D) THERE SHALL BE NO IMPEDIMENT TO THE MOVEMENT OF NONMILITARY SUPPLIES TO EAST BANK, E) ISRAELI CHECKPOINTS ON CAIRO-SUEZ ROAD WILL BE REPLACED BY U.N. CHECK POINTS. AT SUEZ END OF THE ROAD, ISRAELI OFFICERS CAN PARTICIPATE WITH U.N. TO SUPERVISE NONMILITARY NATURE OF CARGO AT THE BANK OF THE CANAL, F) AS SOON AS U.N. CHECK POINTS ARE ESTABLISHED ON CAIRO-SUEZ ROAD, THERE WILL BE AN EXCHANGE OF ALL POWS, INCLUDING WOUNDED. MEANWHILE WIRE STORIES MENTION THAT THERE MAY BE SOME LAST MINUTE HITCHES OVER OMISSION OF REPORTED EGYPTIAN CONCESSION TO LIFT BLOCKADE OF
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BAB EL MANDEB STRAITS ON SOUTHERN ENTRANCE TO RED SEA. WIRE STORIES SPECULATE THAT ABSENCE OF ANY ISRAELI GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCEMENT OF AGREEMENT IS DUE TO LAST MINUTE DIFFICULTIES ABOUT ITS WORDING AND THAT ISRAELI ANNOUNCEMENT ON AGREEMENT WILL BE MADE ONLY AFTER SPECIAL CABINET MEETING NOVEMBER 9. ONE PRESS REPORT STATES THAT ISRAEL IS DEMANDING AN ANNOUNCEMENT FROM CAIRO THAT EGYPT IS LIFTING BLOCKADE OF BAB EL MANDEB AND THAT EGYPT HAS SAID SINCE IT NEVER ANNOUNCED BLOCKADE IT CANNOT SAY IT NO LONGER EXISTS.

3. UNEF AIRLIFT: THE ON-AGAIN, OFF-AGAIN SOVIET AIRLIFT OF FINNISH SOLDIERS FROM HELSINKI TO CAIRO -- SCHEDULED

TO CONCLUDE TODAY -- HAS REPORTEDLY BROKEN DOWN AGAIN, DELAYING UNTIL NOVEMBER 10 AT THE EARLIEST THE ARRIVAL IN EGYPT OF THE FINAL ELEMENTS OF FINLAND'S 589-MAN UNEF CONTINGENT. IN OTHER UNEF DEVELOPMENTS, NEPAL ANNOUNCED FORMALLY TODAY ITS DECISION TO COMMIT NEPALESE TROOPS TO THE UNEF, AND THERE WERE UNCONFIRMED REPORTS IN DAKAR THAT SENEGAL HAD ALSO OFFERED TROOPS TO THE UNSYG FOR SERVICE IN THE UNEF (THE ONLY AFRICANS THUS FAR INCLUDED IN THE FORCE ARE THE GHANAIS WHOSE REPRESENTATIVES ARE DISCUSSING FINAL ARRANGEMENTS WITH UN OFFICIALS IN NEW YORK TODAY). NEPALESE OFFICIALS WILL MEET WITH THEIR UN COUNTERPARTS IN NEW YORK ON NOVEMBER 10 TO DISCUSS DETAILS OF THE NEPALESE DEPLOYMENT.

4. RED CROSS AND POWS. ICRC REPRESENTATIVE IN GENEVA INFORMED US MISSION THAT ICRC HAS BEEN IN CONSTANT STATE OF ALERT TO CARRY OUT ITS RESPONSIBILITIES UNDER GENEVA CONVENTION FOR POW EXCHANGE. HE EXPECTS EARLY APPROACH TO ICRC FROM EGYPTIANS AND ISRAELIS ON MODALITIES OF POW EXCHANGE. ICRC HAS TWO AIRCRAFT BASED ON CYPRUS AND ANOTHER AIRCRAFT OFFERED BY GERMANY ON STANDBY. ALL CAN BE USED FOR TRANSPORT WOUNDED POWS, CIVILIANS, OR OTHERS IN NEED. ICRC STAFF IN FIELD AND HQ FULLY OPERATIONAL AND READY TO BEGIN OPERATIONS.

5. US/EGYPTIAN RELATIONS: CAIRO NEWSPAPER AL-AHRAM STATED NOVEMBER 9 THAT DR. ASHRAF GHORBAL WILL FLY TO
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WASHINGTON WITHIN NEXT TWO WEEKS TO HEAD EGYPTIAN INTERESTS SECTION. GHORBAL REPORTEDLY WILL CARRY A LETTER OF CREDENTIALS ISSUED BY EGYPTIAN FOREIGN MINISTER TO US SECRETARY OF STATE AND NOT TO PRESIDENT BECAUSE OF ABSENCE OF FULL DIPLOMATIC REPRESENTATION BETWEEN TWO COUNTRIES. PAPER EXPLAINS THAT FLAG OF INDIAN EMBASSY WILL CONTINUE TO FLY OVER EGYPTIAN INTERESTS SECTION IN WASHINGTON AND SPANISH FLAG WILL CONTINUE TO FLY OVER USINT CAIRO.

6. FULBRIGHT STATEMENT: SENATOR FULBRIGHT IN SENATE SPEECH NOVEMBER 9 CALLED ON UNITED STATES AND SOVIET UNION TO PERSUADE AND PRESSURE ISRAEL TO GIVE UP ARAB TERRITORY CONQUERED SINCE 1967 IN EXCHANGE FOR SUPERPOWER GUARANTEE OF HER SECURITY. FULBRIGHT SAID PRECISE TERMS OF PEACE SETTLEMENT FOR MIDDLE EAST WOULD HAVE TO BE WORKED OUT IN PROTRACTED NEGOTIATIONS. "BUT THE GENERAL REQUIREMENTS ARE CLEAR: THE RECOVERY OF LOST LANDS BY THE ARABS AND SECURITY FOR ISRAEL. IT IS UP TO US, AND UP TO THE RUSSIANS, WORKING THROUGH THE UNITED NATIONS, TO APPLY WHATEVER DEGREE OF PERSUASION WE CAN, OR WHATEVER DEGREE OF PRESSURE WE MUST, TO BRING ABOUT A

COMPROMISE PEACE BASED UPON THE PRINCIPLES OF THE
SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION OF NOVEMBER, 1967.
IT WOULD THEN BE THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE SOVIET UNION
AND THE UNITED STATES, THROUGH THE UNITED NATIONS, TO
GUARANTEE THE SETTLEMENT.END QUOTE.

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